

WILSON STATES WAR AIMS

Bases World Peace Program on Fourteen Clearly Stated Specifications

MORAL CLIMAX OF WAR HAS COME

PRESIDENT GIVES
PEACE PROGRAM
FOR THE WORLD

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—"With a new statement of war aims, approving the recent declarations of the British premier, Lloyd George, President Wilson today presented to congress and the world a specific declaration of the terms on which it would be possible to make peace with the German military autocracy."

The president's program is composed of fourteen separate articles and provides for restoration and reparation, guarantees for territory and national life, freedom of the seas and access to them, reductions of armaments and guarantees for the sanctity of agreements between nations.

In a word the president said, the program reviews the chief provocations to war.

But in order that his pronouncement should be definitely understood as our war aims more than peace aims, the president declares:

"For such arrangements and covenants we are compelled to fight and will continue to fight until they are achieved."

This was followed by a re-statement that the world was upon a Germany crazed by war, no upon a Germany of peaceful pursuits no matter how great they may be.

"We wish only to accept a place of equality among the peoples of the world," said the president, "the new world in which we now live instead of a place of mastery."

These aims, the president declares, shared by the co-belligerents, were the aims and principles of the people of the United States for which they are willing to sacrifice everything.

"The moral climax of this, the culminating and final war for liberty has come," said the president in conclusion, "and they (the people of the United States) are ready to put their own strength, their own highest purpose, their own integrity and devotion to the test."

President Makes Profound Impression.
The practical agreement of fundamentals in the president's program with those expressed by the British premier made an immediate and profound impression upon all who heard him.

Coming at a moment when Germany faces the demands of her Socialists for abandonment of any program of annexations and indemnities and also faces the failure of the peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk, the president's pronouncement developed its tremendous importance as he spoke it word by word to a crowded chamber of legislators, diplomats and officials who gave him the closest attention.

Although the address was punctuated liberally by applause, there was one great demonstration when the president declared France must have right for the wrong in Alsace-Lorraine. At that the entire assembly arose, applauded and cheered loudly.

Audience Realizes Great Event.
Otherwise the president's address was delivered in the silence which denotes the rapid attention of an audience which realized that it was passing through a great quarter of an hour in the life of the world.

To the German people the president gave a reassurance that they had no aim to impair their peaceful greatness.

The president made clear at the outset that the German statesmen having again challenged their adversaries to a re-statement of war aims, he undertook to respond to it with the utmost candor. The British premier's declaration, the president referred to as having been spoken "with admirable candor and admirable spirit for the people and government of Great Britain."

The president occupied just 33 minutes delivering his address. The Serbian mission sat with the members of the cabinet and joined in the applause that greeted the declaration for restoration of Serbia and the freedom of the Balkan peoples. Each statement of the program was greeted with some applause as the president read it and there was no division of approval apparent.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—President Wilson today, addressing congress, delivered a re-statement of war aims in agreement with the recent declaration by the British premier, David Lloyd George.

The president presented a definite program for world peace containing fourteen specific considerations.

The president presented the following as necessary elements of world peace:

1.—Open covenants of peace without private international understandings.

2.—Absolute freedom of the seas in peace, or war, except as they may be closed by international action.

3.—Removal of all economic barriers and establishment of equality of trade conditions among nations consenting to peace and associating themselves for its maintenance.

4.—Guarantees for the reduction of national armaments to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.

5.—Impartial adjustment of all colonial claims based upon the principle that the peoples concerned have equal weight with the interest of the government.

6.—Evacuation of all Russian territory and opportunity for Russia's political development.

7.—Evacuation of Belgium without any attempt to limit her sovereignty.

8.—All French territory to be freed and restored and reparation for the taking of Alsace-Lorraine.

9.—Re-adjustment of Italy's frontiers along clearly recognizable lines of nationality.

10.—Freest opportunity for autonomous development of the peoples of Austria-Hungary.

11.—Evacuation of Rumania, Serbia and Montenegro with access to the sea for Serbia and international guarantees of economic and political independence and territorial integrity of the Balkan states.

12.—Secure sovereignty for the Turk-

ish portion of the Ottoman empire, but, with other nationalities under Turkish rule, assured security of life and opportunity for autonomous development, with the Dardanelles permanently opened to all nations.

13.—Establishment of an independent Polish state, including territories occupied by indisputably Polish populations, with free access to the sea and political and economic independence and territorial integrity guaranteed by international covenant.

14.—General association of nations under specific covenants for mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to large and small states alike.

"For such arrangements and covenants," said the president in conclusion, "we are willing to fight and continue to fight until they are achieved; but only because we wish the right to prevail and desire a just and stable peace."

The president spoke as follows:

"Gentlemen of the congress:

"Once more, as repeatedly before, the spokesman of the Central empires have indicated their desire to discuss the objects of the war and the possible bases of a general peace. Parleys have been in progress at Brest-Litovsk between Russian representatives and representatives of the Central powers to which the attention of all the belligerents has been invited for the purpose of ascertaining, whether it may be possible to extend these parleys into a general conference with regard to terms of peace and settlement."

The Russian representatives presented not only a perfectly definite statement of the principles upon which they would be willing to conclude peace but also an equally definite program of the concrete application of those principles. The representatives of the Central Powers, on their part, presented an outline of settlement which, if much less definite, seemed susceptible of liberal interpretation until their specific program of practical terms was added. Under the program proposed, no concessions at all, either to sovereignty of Russia or to the preference of the population with whose fortunes it dealt, were made."

But it meant, in a word, that the Central empires were to keep every foot of territory their armed forces had occupied—every province, every city, every point of vantage—as a permanent addition to their territories and their power. It is a reasonable conclusion that the general principles of settlement which they at first suggested, originated with the more liberal statesmen of Germany and Austria, the men who had begun to feel the force of their own people's thought and purpose, while the concrete terms of actual settlement came from the military leaders who have no thought but to keep what they have got. The negotiations have been broken off."

The Russian representatives were sincere and in earnest. They cannot entertain such proposals of conquest and domination.

Peace Parleys Full of Significance.
The whole incident is full of significance. It is also full of perplexity. With whom are the Russian representatives dealing? For whom are the representatives of the central empires speaking? Are they speaking for the majorities of their respective parliaments, or for the minority parties, that military and imperialistic minority which has so far dominated their whole policy and controlled the affairs of Turkey and of the Balkan states which have felt obliged to become their associates in this war? The Russian representatives have insisted, very justly, very wisely and in the true spirit of democracy that the conferences they have been holding with the Teutonic and Turkish statesmen should be held within open, not closed doors, and all the world has been audience as was desired. To whom have we been listening then? To those who speak the spirit and intention of the resolutions of the German reichstag of the ninth of July last, the spirit and intention of the liberal leaders and parties of Germany, or to those who resist and defy that spirit

and intention and insist upon continuing subjugation? Or are we listening to the fact that both unreconciled and in open and hopeless contradiction? These are very serious and pregnant questions. Upon the answer to them depends the peace of the world."

"But whatever the results of the parleys at Brest-Litovsk, whatever the confusions of counsel and of purpose in the utterances of the spokesmen of the central empires, they have again attempted to acquiesce the world with their objects in the war and have again challenged their adversaries to say what their objects are and what sort of settlement they would deem just and satisfactory. There is no good reason why that challenge should not be responded to and responded to with the utmost candor. We did not wait for it. Not once, but again and again, we have laid out our whole thought and purpose before the world, not in general terms only, but each time with sufficient definition to make it clear what sort of definitive terms of settlement must necessarily spring out of them. Within the last week Mr. Lloyd George has spoken with admirable candor and in admirable spirit for the people and government of Great Britain."

There is no confusion of counsel among the adversaries of the central powers, no uncertainty of principle, no vagueness of detail. The only secrecy of counsel, the only lack of fearlessness, the only failure to make a definite statement of the objects of the war lies with Germany and her allies. The issues of life and death hang upon these definitions. No statesman who has the least conception of his responsibility ought for a moment to permit himself to continue this tragical and appalling outpouring of blood and treasure, unless he is sure beyond a peradventure of a doubt that the objects of the vital sacrifice are part and parcel of the very life of society and that the people for whom he speaks think them as right and imperative as he does."

Voice of Russian People.
"There is, moreover, a voice calling for these definitions of principle and of purpose which is, it seems to me, more thrilling and more compelling than any of the many moving voices with which the troubled air of the world is filled. It is the voice of the Russian people. They are prostrate and all but helpless, it would seem, before the grim power of Germany, which has hitherto known no relenting and no pity. Their power apparently is shattered and yet their soul is not subservient. They will not yield either in principle or in action the conception of what is right, of what is humane and honorable for them to accept, and which has been stated with a frankness and a universal human sympathy which must challenge the ad-

mission of the German statesmen."

On the other hand it is pointed out that the various parties in entente countries never appeared so completely united as in their support of the war aims formulated by Premier Lloyd George.

TURKS IN BERLIN.
AMSTERDAM, Jan. 8.—Three members of the Persian parliament accompanied Talaat Bey, the Turkish grand vizier, when he arrived in Berlin for conferences on the war situation.

Neutral observers declare that the gap between the German parties suddenly has become a chasm so wide that there is little hope of bridging it, and that the development of an internal crisis of serious proportions seems inevitable.

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GERMANS DISCUSS
BRITISH AIMS

Demand for Alsace, the German Colonies, Arabia, Syria and Palestine Too Much.

HUNS RELY ON SWORD

Only a Defeated Germany Could Think of Peace on Lloyd-George's Terms.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 8.—Discussing the statement of war aims made Friday by Premier Lloyd-George, the Rheinische Westfälische Zeitung of Essen says:

"When Lloyd-George and British labor demand Alsace for France and the German colonies, Arabia, Syria and Palestine for England and speak of the war indemnity we will have to pay, the answer in view of the actual war situation is 'it is too much.'"

The newspaper thinks, however, that the calmer tone in which Lloyd-George spoke is worth noting and adds:

"Well, Lloyd-George too will one day become reasonable. Until then the U-boats and Hindenburg's sword will help."

The Frankfurter Zeitung says: "Only a defeated Germany could think of negotiating on the terms laid down by Lloyd-George. It is a new war speech and a way to terminate the war will only be open when the movement which has begun in England and other Entente nations is strong enough to replace Lloyd-George, Clemenceau and Baron Sonnino by men who recognize the impossible nature of such speeches and draw consequences from such recognition."

End Is Not in Sight.
"How far we are from that time it is hard to say."

The Nachrichten of Dusseldorf says: "The main point of the speech is that Lloyd-George binds Great Britain to fight to the last breath for Alsace-Lorraine. We do not believe, however, that the British people will fight to the last breath for this war aim."

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GERMANS RAID
BRITISH POST

One Man Missing—Artillery Active Near Bullecourt and Passchendaele.

Russia apparently will continue peace negotiations with the central powers at Brest-Litovsk. A Berlin dispatch received in Copenhagen says that Russia's representatives arrived at Brest-Litovsk Monday and that the negotiations were to be opened yesterday. Foreign Minister Trotzky accompanied the delegation.

Official confirmation of this report is lacking but the probability is lent to it by the fact that neither Russia nor the central powers has declared officially that the peace negotiations have been broken off definitely. Germany suspended the negotiations temporarily late last week because it could not meet the Russian request that the conference be transferred to Stockholm.

Grave Crisis in Germany.
The political crisis brought about in Germany over the annexation policy of the government is most serious, according to reports from neutral capitals. It is reported that General von Ludendorff, as leader of the military group, threatens the resignation of himself and Field Marshal von Hindenburg, should the government continue the support of Von Kuehlmann's peace plans. The German Social Democrats have adopted a resolution again declaring the right of peoples to self-determination so as to bring a lasting peace.

In London it is felt that the central powers will be compelled to make full answer to Premier Lloyd George's statement of war aims, which apparently has brought about better feeling in Great Britain. President Wilson and Premier Clemenceau have congratulated the British leader on his statement. German newspapers in this comment express disbelief in the sincerity of the British premier's words.

Intense Artillery Duels.
Intense artillery duels continue on the western front but the Germans have carried out only two raids—one southeast of Ypres and the other northwest of Verdun—which were repulsed by the British and French respectively. The German artillery fire in the Ypres sector has been very strong for some days and the occasional raids there may be forerunners of a determined attack in an effort to regain possession of the dominating hills in southeastern Flanders. Reconnoitering engagements along the Piave and lively artillery duels between the Asiago and Piave have occupied the troops on the Italian front.

Ten Sailors Lost.
Ten sailors were lost in the sinking by a submarine of a British torpedo destroyer in the Mediterranean. All others on the ship, including the officers, were saved.

LABOR UNIONS TO
BUY THRIFT STAMPS

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 8.—Labor unions of Omaha at a joint meeting last night of their officials assured Ward Burgess, state director of war savings, their hearty support in the thrift stamp sales campaign now in progress. Every labor union in Omaha, according to T. P. Reynolds, president of the State Federation of Labor, made a 100 per cent record in the recent Red Cross membership drive.

EX-TREASURER ROBERTS DIES.
UTICA, N. Y., Jan. 8.—Ellis H. Roberts, ex-treasurer of the United States, born in 1827 and for many years editor of the Utica Herald, died at his home here today.

Bolsheviki Press Continues
To Assail the Entente Allies

LONDON, Jan. 8.—London newspapers state there is no indication thus far of the manner in which Premier Lloyd-George's definition of war aims has been received in Russia, or even whether his speech has been published there. The Bolshevik press of Petrograd continues to attack Great Britain and her Allies. The Pravda and the Izvestia published on Sunday an article based upon some words of Mr. Lloyd-George, apparently one of his speeches in the house of commons, accusing him of desiring to have the

peace negotiations, but in that case it would be apparent that they had betrayed Poland, Lithuania, Courland and Rumania, using Russia as small change to pay these debts. By forcing Russia to make peace and allow Germany to blame Russia and clear themselves in the eyes of their peoples. The plan of the Allied imperialists to prepare peace with the German imperialists at the expense of Poland, etc., can be thwarted only by the peoples in a struggle with their own governments."

Great Assault Imminent.
"The impending German offensive will positively be their great assault. The French and British armies can be relied upon to withstand the shock."

"In the west no important operations took place during the past week. The entire front from the North sea to the Swiss border was very active. The Germans continued their widely

scattered thrusts while the French and British parried with numerous reconnoitering raids and careful patrolling. They remained on the qui vive, taking note of every minor change in the German order of battle, keeping closely informed of possible troop movements and maneuvers."

"In the Cambrai area, the enemy undertook an attack in force. Here the Germans, in attempting a flanking movement, which had, as its immediate objective, the further narrowing down of the British salient, were able to penetrate and hold temporarily certain British trench elements south of Marcoing. This action was conducted with great energy. The British immediately countered and were able to recapture a part of their lost positions."

"Another hostile thrust was undertaken close to the Canal du Nord, where the enemy scored a local advantage as he was able slightly to press back the British."

Lens Assault Collapses.
"Southeast of Lens the enemy made a renewed attempt to reach the British outposts but this assault collapsed before any result could be obtained; while the British later in the week advanced their trenches in this area."

"Minor raids were carried on throughout the week by both the British and Germans. Numerous patrol encounters were also reported."

Intense Artillery Bombardments.
"Intense artillery bombardments in the Lens and Cambrai sectors would indicate that the enemy has selected this terrain for a concentrated assault."

"The French front remains relatively quiet. Severe cold has prevailed. Spirited artillery duels were reported in the Champagne and in the region of the Meuse river. Intense hostile infantry activity was noted in the region of St. Mihiel, and St. Quentin, but the efforts to set in motion an attack against the French lines were in each case easily repulsed."

Italians Holding Their Own.
"After fighting on the defensive for ten weeks, the Italians, firmly supported by the Franco-British forces have been able to reorganize their dispositions in the field. Thereupon, the French, seizing a favorable opportunity, passed to the offensive in the neighborhood of Monte Tomba. The outcome of their undertaking was singularly fortunate. This vitally important strategic point which, had it remained in the hands of the enemy, would have afforded him great advantage, was retaken by the French as the climax of a dashing assault against very strong and difficult positions. Nearly 1400 prisoners were captured."

French Turn Scale.
"The success of the French turned the scale. The Italians, encouraged by this victory, at once set about driving the enemy across the Piave. The Austrians sought to effect a crossing of the river in the vicinity of Intestatura, about 10 miles from the Adriatic. Large contingents were gathered together for this operation. Owing to the vigorous nature of Italian resistance, complete failure attended the undertaking and the enemy was driven back with serious loss. The Austrian detachments have held the bridgehead at Zenson on the right bank of the Piave for the past five weeks, but were driven out by an impetuous at-

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Most Severe National Crisis
in History Facing Germany

LONDON, Jan. 7.—A reply from the central powers to the statement of British war aims made by Premier Lloyd George Saturday is awaited here with the greatest interest. It is believed that Germany and her allies can not decline to reply in some form and to make the reply more straightforward and definite than any previous statement of their aims.

But, if the German papers correctly mirror the situation there, the test which the Bolsheviks have made of Germany's attitude toward the principle of no annexations has thrown Germany into political turmoil. Advice from the capitals of neutral countries bordering on Germany show that the opinion prevalent there is that one of the most severe national crises in the history of Germany is developing as a result of the differences of views

between the militarist and non-militarist leaders regarding the government's attitude toward Russia.

Ludendorff and Hindenburg May Resign.

It is reported generally that General Ludendorff, as leader of the former group, actually has gone so far as to threaten the resignation of himself and Field Marshal von Hindenburg if further countenance is given even to such views as those advanced by men of the type of Dr. von Kuehlmann and Count Czernin, the German and Austrian foreign ministers.

At the same time the view of Von Kuehlmann and Czernin fail to satisfy the German Socialists, who regard their middle of the road policy as tricky and who are determined that the spirit of the reichstag resolution must be followed sincerely and with-

out qualification or reserve.

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SECRETARY BAKER
FORECASTS GREAT
BATTLES IN WEST

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The expected German offensive in the west, Secretary Baker's weekly war review says, will possibly be their greatest assault, but the British and French armies can be rallied on to withstand the shock.

Summarizing the situation on the eve of a possible great offensive, Secretary Baker confidently points out that through sixteen battles of great magnitude the British and French have steadily pushed ahead with methodical sureness and made great gains. The expected offensive, he points out, is probably being delayed for the massing of great quantities of munitions, troops and guns and the Germans may be expected "to strain every fibre of their remaining strength."

French Successes in Italy.
On the Italian front, the secretary points out, French successes have turned the scale against the Austro-German invaders and the west bank of the Piave is being held firmly, hampered by heavy snowfalls in the Alps. He says the invaders are now confronted with a tremendous handicap of maintaining their transport which neutralizes the advantage of holding higher ground."

The period of adjustment, Secretary Baker says, has passed and it may now be expected that "the French, British and Italians, fighting side by side, will be able to master the situation."

The review which this week makes no mention of American troops, follows:

Baker Reviews Military Operations.
Secretary of War Baker today authorized the publication of the following review of the military operations for the week ending January 3, 1918:

Six weeks have elapsed since the first rumors reached us of the great first in the west which the enemy then announced as imminent. In order to concentrate large troop masses, adequate artillery and ample reserves of munitions much time is required."

"Though the German higher command has so long delayed before beginning operations, advances received from the front confirm the information that important actions are contemplated along the western front. They may be counted upon to strain every fibre of their remaining strength in an endeavor to make their plans succeed."

British Win Sixteen Big Battles.
"In considering the general military situation on the eve of a possible German offensive, it must be recalled that through sixteen successive battles of great magnitude in Flanders the British have every time come out victorious and pushed steadily ahead. Their gains have been methodical and cumulative. The Germans have, during this long series of major operations, invariably been forced to give way. The French stood like a rock at Verdun and soon after drove forward vigorously in the battle of the Somme and in turn played a great part in the repeated drives in Flanders."

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